

of providing relief and sending contributions, the writer has much to tell the children of Japan that their adoption may proceed with the least possible delay, was read out by Mr. Benjamin D. Thomas, Illinois commissioner of education and president of the World Federation of Education Associations. It was read to members of the Federation and to all nations represented at the first world conference held this year.

Father was 77 years old and at the time of his disappearance worked as a janitor for the sign police, utilities and my parents. Deane's father at that

The executive committee of the County Farm has presented Mr. Wilson with a gold medal to mark his service in putting through an efficient program at the way his institution is co-operating with the state in putting through an efficient program.

INSURANCE
WALTER H. BARTLETT,
THE NEW YORK

TC

CARS • TRUCKS

SKILLINGTON

Mrs. J. P. Skillings is in Wakefield, visiting her parents.

Miss Florence Young is visiting her brother, William Young, and sister, Mrs. Clarence Judkins.

Fred Bartlett, of Bethel called on Jesse Chapman, Sunday.

Mrs. Maud Sanborn is improving fast from the poisoning in her feet.

Mrs. Richardson spent the afternoon with Mrs. Sanborn, Sunday.

Mrs. Grace Foley is assisting Mr. Sanborn with her housework.

Mr. and Mrs. Griffin and Mrs. Foley were in Norway, Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Griffin were in Rumford, Saturday.

Mr. Claud Edwards has the care of the stable for J. P. Skillings.

Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Kimball of Portland made a short call in town one day lately.

SOUTH WOODSTOCK

Ernest Bryant is working for A. M. Andrews. He is moving into the house recently vacated by Kenneth Benson.

Alvah Hendrickson has been moving Freeman Wyman's goods to Mechanic Falls.

Mrs. Alvah Hendrickson and two children visited her mother, Mrs. A. D. Littlehale, at North Paris one day last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Bryant, Arthur Thurlow and Gladys Thurlow were in

Auburn on business last Wednesday.

Miss Mary Hendrickson spent the week end at her home from her school at Auburn.

Miss Elsie Wilson is attending school at Pine Tree Academy, Auburn, Me.

Miss Myrtle Wilson is spending a few days with her mother, Mrs. C. E. Beckler.

Miss Lulu Day is teaching the Perkins school and is boarding at Leon Poland's.

Mr. Frank Andrews went to Portland Monday after Mrs. Andrews who has been spending a few days there.

ALBANY

About fifty people attended the Circle Thursday evening which was entertained by Roy Wardwell George Cummings, Will Grover, Irving Beckler, L. J. Andrews and Abel Andrews. A bountiful supper was served in an efficient manner, also "work done up" after supper, even to the last dish washed and put away orderly in the cupboard. A pleasing program of music and readings was presented. All felt that many thanks were due to our hosts who gave us such an enjoyable evening.

Guy Johnson from Haverhill, Mass., spent the week end at Irving Beckler's. His mother, Mrs. Inez Bean, returned with him and will keep house for him this winter. He has employment in the shoe shop at Haverhill.

Miss Elizabeth Skeel is spending a few days with friends in Portland.



MUSKRAT AND FRED

Fred had gone on a picnic with several of his friends. They were making coffee when suddenly Fred saw a muskrat. The muskrat was looking at Fred.

"I know what he is saying to me," said Fred, after he had pointed out the muskrat to the others.

The muskrat was sitting by the root of an old tree and was on the opposite side of the river from where Fred and his friends were having their picnic.

"What do you suppose he is saying?" the others asked Fred.

"He is saying," Fred continued, "Well, what in the name of old Borel is he going on over there? Well, I'll just watch those silly creatures."

"Alas, now I will know no privacy," the warm weather has come and the people will come out and I will have no rest until next winter.

"By the ghost of my immortal great-grandfather ten times removed, it was better when wolves and bears were about."

"Of course," Fred added, "it is not certain that these are his thoughts, but if they aren't they should be."

"Otherwise he would have no reason for looking so cross about our picnic."

"Although," Fred went on, "it might really be excusable in his case, for it seems to me that if I lived in a muddy bank of a river I would have a bad temper, what with colds in the head, rheumatism and tired, cold feet."

As Fred said this the muskrat decided it was time to let his family see what was going on, so up he went along his side of the bank and before long came back again with five relatives.

They all watched to see what mischief Fred and his friends might be up to, and the youngest of all was



"A Most Delightful Sandwich."

made to act as guard while the others decided they would be off.

Strangely enough, the young muskrat was very curious. He was mere curious than the first one had been, and more curious than muskrats usually are.

"I'm going to stay around," he said to himself. "The others seem to have seen all they want to see. But I want to watch these curious people amusing themselves as they sit about and eat."

So the young muskrat wandered about and something was thrown in his direction. He picked it up, and it was good to eat.

Yes, it was a most delightful sandwich. He knew his family would not approve of his eating food given him in that way. He knew that the old muskrat who had been around first would have said to him:

"Young idiot, do you not remember our aunt's mother's cousin was just such a fool as you, and now where is he?"

"Where is he, I ask you? He is the middle piece of a lady's fur coat; that is where he is."

But the young muskrat was glad his wise relation was not around to speak to him in this way, for one's elders were silly, all young creatures knew that!

And besides, the soft sandwich had been very good. And now he gobbled another one for, on second thoughts his wise relation and the eldest of all especially, might not warn him against the picnic food, but might eat it themselves.

And the sandwich did him no harm. No, indeed; but Fred wondered if he might not get too many fine ideas in his muskrat head.

Yes, Fred was afraid that perhaps he might think that he was to be given delicacies, like this, and that his young head might be turned.

He perhaps he might suffer the same fate as his relative who was now in a lady's fur coat.

But still Fred would give him nothing but the best of food, and perhaps it was nice for a muskrat to be able to enjoy a picnic as well as people.

That was what Fred finally decided. If people enjoyed picnics then surely once in a while a muskrat might be given the joy of a picnic, too.

And whenever after that Fred went on a picnic he always spoke of the muskrat to whom he had thrown sandwiches and who had seemed as fond of eating picnic food as any of them.

And he wondered, too, if the muskrat bestowed to the other muskrats of the attention he had received.

For surely it was enough to make a muskrat boast a little bit, at any rate.

RUMFORD

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Jordan and daughter, Priscilla, left Sunday for Arlington, Mass., where they will attend the wedding of Mrs. Jordan's brother, Mr. Waldo Lovejoy, to Miss Constance Dodge. The wedding will occur on Monday evening in the Congregational Church of Arlington.

Mr. Lovejoy is a young Rumford business man and is well liked. He is associated with his father, E. L. Lovejoy, in the Rumford Falls Insurance Agency. The young people will make their home with Mr. E. L. Lovejoy on Franklin Street.

Mrs. Armand Bladenau of this town was killed while on a trip to Quebec with a party of friends and relatives. It appears that Auguste Picard of this town took Mrs. Bladenau with her father, mother and brother to Asbestos, Que., to visit some relatives. In the evening after arriving the young people were going out for a ride with Picard planning to go to Danville, Que. On a sandy curve the big Paige overturned. All but one girl were pinned under the car, this young lady went for assistance but it was with great difficulty that the rescuers were able to raise the big car and extricate the occupants. All were taken to the Sherbrooke hospital where Mrs. Bladenau died a few hours later from internal injuries. The other members of the party were seriously injured but not fatally. The body of Mrs. Bladenau was brought to Rumford and funeral services were held Thursday morning from St. John's Church. Mrs. Bladenau is survived by her husband, Armand, her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jos. Drapreau and by four brothers and three sisters all of Rumford. Mrs. Bladenau was well known in Rumford and her many friends extend their sympathy to her husband. She was 19 years of age.

On Tuesday afternoon at the church parlor of the Universalist Church an informal social was held in honor of Mrs. Lambert who left on Friday morning for St. Petersburg, Florida. The parlor was delightfully decorated with cut flowers and a large number of ladies were present. After the business meeting was over at which time the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: president, Mrs. Nina Israelson; vice-president, Mrs. Louise Hutchins; secretary, Mrs. Emma B. Howe and treasurer, Mrs. Eudora Ames; a delightful lunch of sandwiches, cake and tea was served. Following this Mrs. Clough introduced Mrs. Clara M. Jones as the speaker of the afternoon. Mrs. Jones arose and in her pleasant and gracious manner presented Mrs. Lambert with a writing portfolio and a fountain pen. Mrs. Lambert responded in a pleasing manner and promised to use both gifts in writing to members of the Aid.

Albert Shea, son of Mr. and Mrs. James Shea of Knox Street, has resumed his studies at the Northeastern College in Boston.

Miss Mary Sanford Coombs, who has been for several years domestic science teacher in the Rumford schools left the first of the week for Springfield, Md., where she has accepted a position as dietitian in the state hospital.

Miss Amelia Paquin has returned to New York after a visit spent with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Paquin, of Knox Street.

The little three year old son of Lester Hathaway of Bryant's Pond is receiving treatment at the McCarty Hospital for an infected foot. The little fellow stepped on a rusty nail and infection set in. At the present time he is improving.

It has been thought wise by the Superintendent and school board of this town to restrict the domestic science and manual training courses in the Rumford schools to the seventh, eighth

and first year in the high grades. This will save expense and it is deemed wiser as pupils before the ages contained in the seventh grade are able to do very little and so little that it is not thought it warrants the expense put into this course earlier than the seventh grade. In doing this one teacher for domestic science can handle all the classes in the Rumford schools, so this makes quite a reduction in the expense account.

Rodney MacGregor entertained a party of boys at a corn roast at the Abbott farm at East Rumford, Saturday night. Among those present were Horace Irish, Charles Hutchins and Willard Shurtlett. The boys had a fine time and ate generously of the corn.

Mrs. H. W. Curtis and two children, Robert and Wallace, accompanied by Mrs. Curtis' mother, Mrs. H. E. Willis, of Waltham, Mass., arrived in town on Thursday of last week and are now settled in the Baptist rectory. The Rev. Mr. Curtis began his pastorate at the Rumford Baptist church on Sunday of last week.

WEST GREENWOOD

Mrs. Addie Conner, who has been visiting in West Bethel, Albany and South Paris, is now visiting at Geo. Conner's. Mr. and Mrs. William Trussler and daughter, Daisy, of Sherbrooke, P. Q., recently visited at the home of Mrs. William Dearden. They returned home by way of the mountains.

Mr. and Mrs. John Deegan are receiving congratulations upon the birth of a daughter.

May Murphy of Boston, Mass., spent two days of last week with her uncle, John Gill.

Among the out of town callers for the past week were Mrs. Martha Bartlett, William Barrett, Alton and Charles Bartlett, Ray and Roy Cummings, Lester Swan, Leonard Armstrong, Sidney Jodrey, Norman Duller, Albert Flanders, S. S. Greenleaf, Dr. Wight and Ernest Cross.

Mrs. Harding is working at the home of John Deegan.

Several from this vicinity attended the fair of last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Chase were at P. G.

Sloan's, Sunday.

Annie Cross was the guest of Marjorie Farwell one night last week.

RUMFORD POINT

F. A. Knight and wife of Saco were calling on friends here Wednesday.

W. S. Stearns and I. W. Stowe are working in the corn shop at the Center. Mrs. Hayes is a guest of Mrs. Fanny Horn of Norway.

Mr. Merrill of Gorham, N. H., was in town, Tuesday.

W. H. Barker is home from the Lakes. L. M. Hutchins and family attended Farmington fair.

Holt Bros. of Dixfield were setting work in the cemetery here last week.

Ralph Hall and wife of East Dixfield were in town, Tuesday.

Most of the people here went to Newry fair, Saturday.

M. E. Barker and family went to Lewiston for the winter, recently.

Shining Windows.

Window panes rubbed briskly with a cloth dipped in ylogear will be bright.

Bethel Village Corporation FIRE ALARM SIGNALS

- 1 blast, repeated at one minute intervals—Broad Mason and Paradise Streets.
 - 2 blasts, repeated at one minute intervals—Mill Hill.
 - 3 blasts, repeated at two minute intervals—Church, Park, Upper High, Upper Summer, Elm Streets.
 - 4 blasts, repeated at two minute intervals—Main to Bryant's Store, Spring, Brighton, Chapman Streets.
 - 5 blasts, repeated at two minute intervals—Lower Main, Mechanic, Lower High, Clark, Lower Summer, Vernon Streets.
 - 6 blasts, repeated at two minute intervals—Mills, Mill Yards and Railroad Street.
- In case of fire call the telephone office, tell the operator where the fire is, and she will tend to the alarm. There are two alarm boxes, one on the corner of Church and Main Streets, the other on the corner of Main and High Streets at the rear of Wm. C. Bryant's store.

Something New!

We are showing a new assortment of DRESSES in Canton Crepe and Poiret Twill. Prices \$21.75 to \$24.75. These are all new models, exclusive yet not extreme.

SPORT COATS

from \$27.50 to \$45.00

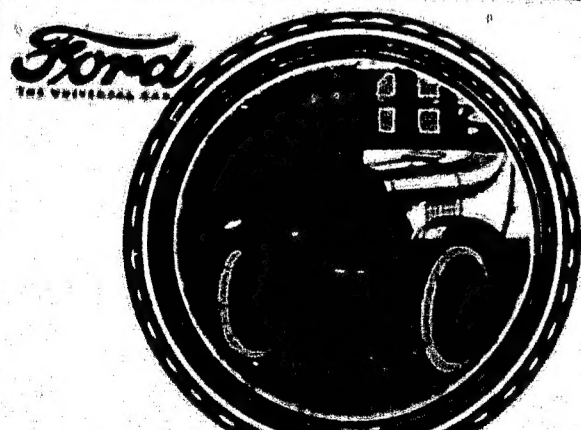
A Sport Coat is very serviceable and can be worn for almost every occasion.

Children's and Juniors' Coats at \$10.98 up to \$16.98

On Friday and Saturday of this week, Sept. 28-29, we will show an entire New Assortment of Millinery

We have tried to select a style and shape for everyone. Come in, and let us fit you.

YOUNG'S Variety Store
Bethel, Maine



Announcement

The new Ford cars are now ready for your inspection, introducing changes that improve the appearance of the various body types and increase their comfort and utility.

They offer you not only economical and dependable transportation, but also a more attractive style and a greater share of motoring convenience—a combination that makes the outstanding value of Ford cars more impressive than ever.

See the new Ford models now on display in our showroom.

These cars can be obtained through the Ford Weekly Purchase Plan.

Herrick Bros. Co.
BETHEL, MAINE.



WHY PAY MORE?

We are now prepared to furnish

BIRD'S AMERICAN FOURS

Four in one
10 X 40

Green Slate Surfaced Asphalt Shingles

PRICE \$5.50 per M

This shingle is a winner and weighs 200 lbs. to the square. Call and see our supply of

Roofing Material

THIS IS NOT ALL WE CARRY IN STOCK.

H. ALTON BACON

Bryant's Pond, Maine

L. F. PIKE CO.

Men's Clothing Stores

Why We Say

"Get Fine Quality in Clothes"

The thing that any merchant ought to sell is the thing that he knows is best for his customers. We know that good quality in clothes gives you the most satisfaction; saves you money. That is why we sell clothes made by such makers as

Hart, Schaffner & Marx

Kirschbaum Styleplus Clothcraft

Because of our two stores and our large patronage we are able to give you large showings of these manufacturers' products.

Fall Suits and Overcoats Now Ready

NORWAY

BLUE STORES SOUTH PARIS, ME.

Tried and True Are the Wooltex Knockabout Coats

For Rough Weather:
Protected against every wind, snug and warm all winter will you be inside your Knockabout Coat. They are built of outdoor fabrics, warm and serviceable.

For Business:
The absence of frills and furbelows, the presence of smart trim lines, commends the Knockabout to you for business. It will stand hard wear.

An extremely smart model in overplaid Chinchilla, cleverly pocketed and collared.

For Motors:
For fall or winter driving, there is no comparison like a Knockabout Coat, whether you are at the wheel or one of those who ride. Most beautiful models especially recommended for motorists.

For Long Wear:
For anything you can always be certain in a Wooltex Knockabout—long service. Wooltex coats are tailored like a man's line overcoat, finished with care. A Knockabout bought now will be a service coat for several seasons' wear.

WOOLTEX COATS in the following high grade materials, Excesso, Pentalure, Canada, Francine, Fashona, Polaire, Chinchilla and overplaid.

Prices are \$24.75, \$39.75, \$49.75, \$59.75, \$75.00.

Ladies' and Misses' Fall Dresses

A presentation of radiantly beautiful, fashionably correct Fall Dresses for those who are ready for the Fall season. The display comprises a large number of delightful youthful styles and we should be more than pleased to have you inspect them.

POURTY TWILL is the material that is favored, colors are navy and brown, beautifully trimmed with black embroidery and braid. Party dresses to show you and hardly any two alike.

New Dresses \$9.95 up to \$27.50

Holeproof Hosiery

Stylish Hosiery Without Extravagance

The woman who has thought it necessary to pay high prices for smart Hosiery, will be agreeably surprised when she comes here and prices Holeproof. Not reasonable prices are not the only saving this famous hosiery offers. Its extraordinary durability makes your money go much further.

OUR STOCK OF HOLEPROOF HOSIERY is complete in all respects, material, best colors, sizes and styles in hemmed and "Extra stretch top."

THE HOLEPROOF "EXTRA STRETCH TOP" stocking is not only the most comfortable stocking made, fitting all limbs snugly, whether large or small, without banding, but it prevents "runs" arising from garter strains.

Holeproof Hosiery of Lisle, silk faced, all silk, wool, silk and wool. Priced 50c to \$2.75.

Carter's Knit Underwear

EVERY GARMENT A PERFECT GARMENT

No hot or cold. No guesswork, but perfect workmanship of the best materials afforded in the world's markets. All backed by 50 odd years' underwear manufacturing experience.

Carter's

Always perfect fit, good looks, remarkable comfort.

As for Wear—Three garments have a reputation for proven merit that guarantees satisfaction. This line is standard in underwear. Not a "fancy" or "fashion" item. We can end your personal wishes in the matter of style and weight. Have a perfect fit for just your size.

Why don't you get acquainted with "All the Underwear Comfort in the World" to day?

Carter's Union Suits in medium weight cotton, silk and wool. cotton and wool.

Priced \$2.00, \$2.25, \$3.00, \$3.50, \$5.00

Brown, Buck & Co.

Norway, Maine

WHY

Some Scholars Believe Earth Is Drying Up

Geographers assert that there is every evidence that the great desert belt that extends across Africa and Asia at or a little above the tropic of Cancer is growing larger and drier. The Syrian desert, which is now an utter waste, was crowded with cities and full of cultivated fields only two or three thousand years ago. Mesopotamia and Persia, ancient seats of civilization, could scarcely have risen so high if their climate then had been what it is now.

There are plenty of evidences that the Sahara and the Libyan desert have encroached on the fertile lands of north Africa and of the Sudan. The old "granary of Rome" in Tunis is now largely an arid waste. It is not surprising if the Nile draws less water than it used to from its tributaries in the Sudan, and less more than it used to by evaporation. Most geographers agree that the deserts are growing at present. Some believe that it is only an inevitable step in the drying up of the earth, and expect the process to go on forever, though perhaps with occasional retentions.

Other scholars say that there is evidence of an extraordinary amount of fluctuation in the climate of the world; that there have been much drier periods than ours, as well as much milder ones; and that the retreating of the northern desert band is only a phase in a long-time movement of climate from wet to dry and back again. But as these regular movements are extremely slow, often taking many thousands of years to complete their swing, none of us now living will be here long enough to know which theory is the right one.

TO MAKE COMPLETE CHANGE

Why the Post Office Department Is Revising Entire Stamp Series Is Explained to Public.

A complete change in the design of our stamps has just been announced by the United States postal service, the ninth in the history of the country. Denominations from one cent to twelve cents follow the time-honored custom of commemorating great figures in American history. The story of the nation is told in the nine designs and denominations from 14 cents to 95.

The purpose of revising the entire stamp series was to produce designs which would have more distinctive color and clearer numerals. Numerous complaints concerning the old series of stamps were made to the Post Office Department and it is known that serious losses and mistakes resulted from the lack of definition in certain of the former designs.

Traditional fate has waited upon the 13-cent stamp. This denomination will not appear in the new series. It was brought out during the war when the combined postage and registration fee was 13 cents. Two new denominations take the place of this engraving in the stamp constellation, the 14-cent stamp and the 25-cent stamp, which are useful in connection with parcel post.

Why Best Bananas Remain Home.

The ordinary fruitstand banana is grown chiefly in Jamaica, Costa Rica and other parts of tropical America. Some attempt has been made to grow them in California, Louisiana and in other states with warm climates, but this is more or less of an experiment, because the plant cannot endure the slightest frost. As a novelty, a few banana plants have borne fruit in colder climates, but under special protection.

It is interesting to note that the best and most tasty bananas are not known to most of us because they are too perishable to ship any distance. In the East Indies there are bananas that grow over a foot long and about two inches thick. These are not exported, but are used for home consumption.—The Post-Index.

Why Editors Went Armed.

J. H. McMillan has written the life of the abolitionist, Henry McMillan, who founded the London Gazette in 1803, says the Detroit News.

McMillan's "Nine Letters," from 1807 to 1809, the newspaper of which time had been at Lexington, Wis., now that have been carefully examined. He McMillan compares the life of a journalist of those far-off days with that of the present.

"A remarkable contrast," he writes, "to a modern editor journeying to his daily work was presented by the bearded, somewhat century news writer, mounted on horseback and traveling to Whitwell or the 'Seven Stars' in the Strand, armed with a sword and a brace of pistols in his holster, because of the footpads at Knightbridge."

Why Janitors Don't Newly Married.

All the world is popularly supposed to love a lover and it is a common belief that all the world has a kindly spot in his or their hearts for the newweds. There is, however, one class that does not look with eyes of favor on the newly married—the apartment house janitor.

"These new tenants in 4c," said one disgruntled janitor the other night, "are newweds."

"Why the dislike?" asked a friend. "All newweds are a nuisance," replied the janitor, biting off a large chew of tobacco. "They don't know how to run things. The first thing you know every time in the place is 'newweds'."



This Time Use Our Hard Drying Floor Paint

and be sure of satisfactory results, for this paint is made especially for painting floors. Gives a bright glossy surface that is easy to keep clean. Dries hard quickly; easy to apply and wears well.

Made in eight attractive colors. Come to our store and see the color panels.

IRVING L. CARVER
BETHEL, MAINE

Save the surface and you save all a good deal.

Lowe Brothers
Paints - Varnishes

Atlas Jars and Rubbers for Canning

We are ready to supply you with the

ATLANTIC CANNER

The cost of the Canner is very small compared with the saving of time and labor.

We also have a good supply of Economy Jars and Caps

G. L. THURSTON CO.

BETHEL, MAINE

IRA C. JORDAN

General Merchandise

BETHEL, MAINE

NASH

MOTOR CARS

Canal Street Garage
Rumford

Cedar and Asphalt SHINGLES

... SHINGLES ...

We have a good assortment of Cedar and Asphalt Shingles, also ROOFING of all kinds.

BEAVER BOARD AND WINDOWS

Prices and Quality Guaranteed

MARK C. ALLEN

BRYANT'S POND, ME.

Any Magazine

May be bought more economically by subscription than at the single copy price.

Many publishers are offering low subscription rates until Nov. 1. Of these will be found in my Magazine Price List.

Carl L. Brown, Bethel.

STATE OF MAINE

To all persons interested in the estate hereinafter named: As a Probate Court, held at the third Tuesday of September, 1923, at the County of Oxford, we have received and read the petition of the executor of the estate of the late of said County, and the following matters have been presented for our consideration and we are hereby ORDERED:

That notice thereof be given to all persons interested, by causing a copy of this order to be published three times successively in the Oxford County Register, a newspaper published at Bethel, in said County, that they appear at a Probate Court to be held at Bethel, on the third Tuesday next, A. D. 1923, at 9 o'clock of the forenoon, and be heard thereon as they may cause.

Witness my hand and seal of said Court at Bethel, this 27th day of September, 1923.

ALBERT D. PARK, Register.

NOTICE

The subscriber hereby gives notice that he has been duly appointed executor of the estate of Augustus J. Carter late of Bethel in the County of Oxford, deceased, and given bond to the law directs. All persons having claims against the estate of said deceased are desired to present them for settlement, and all indebted to be requested to make payment as directed.

FRANCIS H. CARTER, Bethel, September 26th, 1923.

Charter No. 7813
Reserve District No. 1
REPORT OF CONDITION OF
BETHEL NATIONAL BANK
At Bethel in the State of Maine
the close of business on Sept. 14, 1923.

RESOURCES	
1 a Loans and discounts, including rediscounts, acceptances of other banks, and foreign bills of exchange or drafts sold with indorsement of this bank (except those shown in b and c)	\$70,000.00
4 U. S. Government Securities owned:	
a Deposited to secure circulation (U. S. bonds par value)	10,000.00
b All other United States Government securities (including premiums, if any)	27,329.00
Total	37,329.00
5 Other bonds, stocks, securities, etc.	101,000.00
6 Lawful reserve with Federal Reserve Bank	16,000.00
7 Cash in vault and amount due from national banks, Total of Items 9, 10, 11, 12, and 13	35,000.00
8 Miscellaneous cash items	
9 Redemption fund with U. S. Treasurer and due from U. S. Treasurer	
Total	\$274,329.00
LIABILITIES	
10 Capital stock paid in	\$25,000.00
11 Surplus fund	20,000.00
12 Undivided profits	\$14,329.00
c Less current expenses, interest, and taxes paid	(1,000.00)
13 Circulating notes outstanding	10,000.00
14 Certified checks outstanding	
Total of Items 21, 22, 23, 24, and 25	\$14,329.00
15 Individual deposits subject to check	
Total of demand deposits (other than bank deposits) subject to Reserve, Items 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, and 31	201,512.91
Total	\$274,329.00

STATE OF MAINE
COUNTY OF OXFORD, SS:
I, Henry C. Park, Clerk of the above named bank, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

HENRY C. PARK, Clerk.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 14th day of September, 1923.

A. E. HERRICK, Notary Public.

Correct—Attest:
HENRY M. WALKER,
CLARENCE R. FOX,
FRED L. EDWARDS, Direct.

Any Magazine

May be bought more economically by subscription than at the single copy price.

Many publishers are offering lower subscription rates until Nov. 1. All of these will be found in my Fall Magazine Price List.

Carl L. Brown, Bethel.

STATE OF MAINE

To all persons interested in either of the Estates hereinafter named:

At a Probate Court, held at Paris, Me. for the County of Oxford, on the third Tuesday of September, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and twenty-three. The following matters having been presented for the notice thereupon hereinafter indicated, it is hereby ORDERED:

That notice thereof be given to all persons interested, by causing a copy of this order to be published three weeks successively in the Oxford County Citizen, a newspaper published at Bethel, Maine, in said County, that they may appear at a Probate Court to be held at Paris, Me. on the third Tuesday of October, A. D. 1923, at 9 o'clock in the forenoon, and be heard thereon if they see cause.

ESTATE OF E. LOWE late of Bethel, deceased; petition for an allowance out of personal estate presented by Louise E. Lowe, widow.

ESTATE OF M. WILLIAMSON late of Newry, deceased; will and petition for probate and the appointment of Harry A. Williamson as executor of the same presented by said Harry A. Williamson, the executor therein named.

ESTATE OF J. SARGENT late of Megalloway Plantation, deceased; first account presented for allowance by Lewis Leavitt, executor.

ESTATE OF A. STEARNS, Judge of said Court at Paris, this third Tuesday of September in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and twenty-three.

Albert D. Park, Register.

NOTICE

The subscriber hereby gives notice that she has been duly appointed administrator of the estate of Augustus M. Carter late of Bethel in the County of Oxford, deceased, and given bonds as the law directs. All persons having demands against the estate of said deceased are desired to present the same for settlement, and all indebted thereon are requested to make payment immediately.

FRANCES H. CARTER, Bethel, Maine.
September 26th, 1923. 9-27-23

Charter No. 7813
Reserve District No. 1
REPORT OF CONDITION OF THE
BETHEL NATIONAL BANK,
At Bethel in the State of Maine, at the close of business on Sept. 14, 1923.

RESOURCES

1 a Loans and discounts, including rediscounts, acceptances of other banks, and foreign bills of exchange or drafts sold with indorsement of this bank (except those shown in b and c) \$70,342.75

1 U. S. Government Securities owned:

a Deposited to secure circulation (U. S. bonds per value), 10,000.00

b All other United States Government securities (including premiums), 27,328.00

5 Other bonds, stocks, securities, etc., 101,577.20

8 Lawful reserve with Federal Reserve Bank, 15,911.69

13 Cash in vault and amount due from national banks, 35,802.10

Total of Items 9, 10, 11, 12, and 13, 25,902.10

b Miscellaneous cash items, 525.48

12 Redemption fund with U. S. Treasurer and due from U. S. Treasurer, 500.00

Total, \$274,474.22

LIABILITIES

17 Capital stock paid in, \$25,000.00

18 Surplus fund, 29,503.69

19 Divided profits, \$14,122.04

c Less current expenses, interest, and taxes paid, 1,230.00

20 Circulating notes outstanding, 10,000.00

21 Reserved checks outstanding, 81.32

Total of Items 21, 22, 23, 24, and 25, \$12,411.35

26 Individual deposits subject to check, 201,512.91

Total of demand deposits (other than check deposits) subject to Reserve, Items 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, and 31, 201,512.91

Total, \$274,474.22

STATE OF MAINE,
COUNTY OF OXFORD, SS:
I, Elmer C. Park, Cashier of the above named bank, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

ELMER C. PARK, Cashier.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 15th day of September, 1923.

A. E. HERRICK, Notary Public.

Correct—Attest:
HARVEY M. WALKER,
CLARENCE E. FOX,
FRANK L. HOWARD,
Directors.

WEST PARIS

There was a very pleasant family reunion at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Stevens, Sunday, when they assisted by their son, Ernest Bisbee, entertained a family party composed of the descendants of the Stevens' and Bisbee's. The efforts of Mr. Stevens and his family were greatly appreciated and the day was happily and quietly passed. Music was furnished on the Victrola and a bountiful dinner was served with plenty of homemade ice cream. Those who were present were Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Stevens of Paris, Mrs. Lucy Cummings and sons, Leon and Ronald of Freeport; Mr. and Mrs. Carl Stevens and daughters, Marion and Irene, and sons, Stanley and Harold of Sumner; Mr. and Mrs. Harold Stevens and daughter, Dorothy, of W. Paris; Mr. and Mrs. Henry Hayden and daughter, Annette of Backfield; Eugene Hazelline of Sumner, Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Tuell, Mr. and Mrs. George Tuell and daughter, Margaret, and son, Gilman, and the host and hostess, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Stevens, and son Ernest Stevens.

Evelyn J., daughter of Mrs. Bessie Oldham Small and the late Frank Small, passed away at Mother's Sanitarium Friday morning. She was born in West Paris, May 6, 1904, and with the exception of eight years, when the family resided in Berlin, N. H., has spent her life here. Miss Small has been in delicate health from her birth but was able to attend school until her first year in high school, when heart disease and other complications made it necessary for her to leave school. She has continued to fail gradually, but her final illness has been very painful. With the other complications she had an abscess caused from a tooth, which had to be lanced, and she was taken to Mother's Sanitarium.

Miss Small was a lovable young lady, deeply interested in the higher things of life. As long as health permitted she was a regular attendant at the Forenoon church and Sunday School, her religious preference being Methodist. She was a member of West Paris Grange, and was an interested worker. Miss Small had a very sweet soprano voice, and was always willing to sing when invited and conditions permitted.

Besides her mother she leaves two sisters, Mrs. Kathleen, wife of Lorenzo Littlefield, and Rosellen, also three brothers Nathan, Bernard and Edwin, all younger than she, a grandmother, Mrs. P. J. Bates of Lisbon, and uncle, Walter Small, of Dixfield.

The funeral was held from the Baptist church Sunday. Rev. C. H. Young of Norway officiated by special request. There were many pretty flowers.

Miss Ellen Stearns has been visiting her aunt, Miss Nellie Marshall, at Waterville.

Miss Grace Thayer of South Paris was the guest Wednesday of her cousin, Mrs. Bert Day.

Albert Jackson, Miss Beatrice Davis and Mr. and Mrs. Abner Mann went to Portland Thursday to hear Sousa's band.

Mrs. C. H. Bates is visiting relatives in Connecticut.

Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Ridlon are spending a few days in Portland.

The Universalist church began its work Sept. 9. A meeting of the Sunday School teachers was held the following Monday. There was much interest in making plans for the winter's work. It was voted to have a teacher training course. Bally Sunday to be observed Sept. 30. A Bible credit course has been taken by ten young people in the Sunday School—members of the West Paris High School. Mrs. L. C. Bates has been the teacher. The interest was vital to her very soul of the course. "The Life of Christ" was the text book. Two required examinations were taken, each one proving that the work was not in vain. Delegates were chosen to attend the State Convention at Rockland: Mrs. Addie Mann, Mrs. Millie Davis, L. C. Bates, E. D. Schwell.

EAST BETHEL

Miss Eliza Bartlett has returned as principal of Bethel grammar school.

Mrs. Edith Howe was a Sunday guest of relatives at Sumner.

Mrs. E. E. Rob of Bethel, N. H., is a visitor of her sister, Mrs. A. M. Dean, and family.

Mrs. Marie Wight Hamel of Auburn was last week's visitor of relatives here.

Mrs. McMillen and daughter, Miss Dorothy, from Portland are boarding with Mr. and Mrs. Guy Bartlett.

Mrs. Loretta Dean has closed her home here and gone to Norway for a few weeks.

Mr. Porter Farwell is suffering from a double fracture and a bad cut of his right leg caused by a heavy kick from his horse, Saturday. Dr. R. E. Tabette was called and Mr. Farwell made as comfortable as possible.

Mr. Chas. G. Kishall has gone to Rollins Falls, Vt., to be the guest of relatives there.

Nature's Universal Law.
The law of Nature let do the thing and you shall have the power, but they that do not do the thing have not the power. Everywhere and always this law is sublime.—Emerson.

THE J. E. JONES LETTER

(Continued from page 1)

all the way from enthusiasm to simple assent, and 221 hold out that it is "no good." Since about one-third of the Agents replied that they had not personally listened to receive the mystic messages of radio the attitude of the 221 Doubting Thomases seems to be accounted for.

What radio can do—and is doing to improve the happiness and advance the prosperity of farm dwellers is altogether another story. The Agricultural Department takes it for granted that there is at least nothing harmful that can come out of radio and therefore it is constantly expanding its service in the hopes that every farm in the United States will be reached in time. And as the wave widens and the number of radio users grows the Department proposes to increase its efficiency and to necessary add additional features to its service, because the functions of this branch of Uncle Sam's institution is almost wholly "Service."

THE KU KLUX KLAN

Independent of what the Ku Klux Klan may be as an organization it is universally regarded as dynamite in all well-regulated newspaper offices. But by harkening back to Huxley's Lay Sermons, wherein it is recorded that "a world of facts lies outside and beyond the world of words," we obtain a background that takes us "outside" the Oklahoma struggle into the safety-zone wherein President U. S. Grant (like Governor Jack Walton) "took up arms against a sea of trouble," and by opposing the Klan that operated in the South ended it. In a special message to Congress on March 31, 1871, President Grant asked for legislation empowering him to deal with a condition of affairs which he described as "rendering life and property insecure, and the carrying of the mails and the collection of the revenue dangerous." Congress passed the "force bill" within a month. The President was empowered to use "the militia or the land and naval forces of the United States . . . for the suppression of such insurrection, domestic violence, or combinations" as existed. A short time thereafter President Grant issued a proclamation calling upon members of the associations in nine countries in South Carolina to disperse and surrender their arms and disguise within five days. Two hundred persons were arrested and the Klan was completely overthrown in the country.

According to Governor Walton the Klan has become an "invisible government" in Oklahoma, and as such it is claimed that it is replacing constituted civil authority. The Klan of today is far different in purpose from that which existed after the Civil War, but its methods are similar in many respects. Quite likely Governor Jack Walton has been reading up on Grant's experience, and has concluded that a modern government ought to be able to match the achievements of an old-time president. Anyhow he has succeeded in making Oklahoma more spectacular than ever—and that's "going some."

WATCHDOGGING THE TREASURY

A well-authenticated news item appearing in the Washington newspapers this week says that Secretary of the Treasury Mellon is preparing to defeat, if possible, the passage of a soldiers' bonus bill at the coming session of Congress. Mellon is reported as making plans to educate the country to the merits of increased taxation. He will specialize in this undertaking by making an anti-bonus fight. Despite the prediction that Congress is lined up for the bonus it is remembered that Mellon won out last Winter. All signs point towards failure.

DANGER IN DELAY

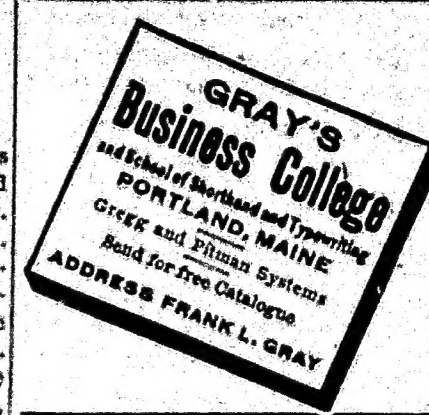
Kidney Diseases Are Too Dangerous

For Bethel People to Neglect

The great danger of kidney troubles is that they so often get a firm hold before the sufferer recognizes them. Health will be gradually undermined. Backache, headache, nervousness, lameness, soreness, lumbago, urinary troubles, dropsy, gravel and Bright's disease may follow as the kidneys get worse. Don't neglect your kidneys. Help the kidneys with Doan's Kidney Pills, which are so strongly recommended right here in Bethel.

Mrs. A. L. Holt, 7 Elm St., says: "We have used Doan's Kidney Pills in our home and wouldn't be without a box in case of need. I used Doan's when my kidneys were out of order and I had severe spells of backache. Everything seemed a drag to me when going about my housework and I was so dizzy I was afraid to walk across the floor for fear of falling. I could see black specks before my eyes. As soon as I began using Doan's Kidney Pills, which I got at Bosserman's Drug Store, I got relief and three boxes cured me."

Price 60c, at all dealers. Don't simply ask for a kidney remedy—get Doan's Kidney Pills—the same that Mrs. Holt had. Foster-Milburn Co., Mfrs., Buffalo, N. Y. adv.



We do job work as it should be done. Send for estimates. Citizen Print Shop.

UTK

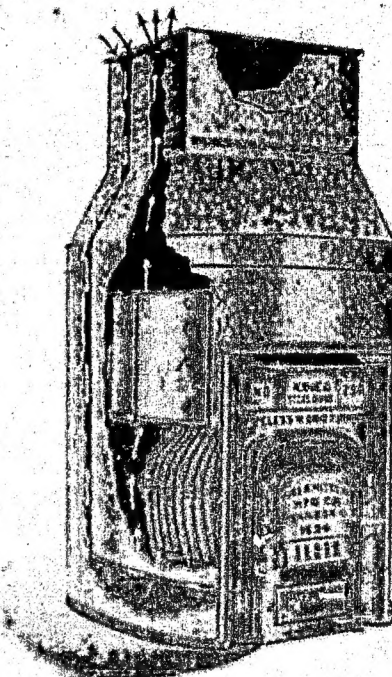
Tailor Shop

Naimey Building

Tailoring for men and women. Remodelling, Alterations, Repairing, Cleaning and Pressing.

SUITS MADE TO ORDER

ALSO FUR WORK



Now Is the Time to
HAVE YOUR HEATING PLANT INSTALLED
Before the Fall Rush

I have in stock a good line of
Kineo Furnaces Kineo Ranges
Kineo Heaters

Let me show you their advantages

D. GROVER BROOKS

BETHEL, MAINE

Remember the Date---October 15th

Vote on the 48-Hour Law

Referendum

NO X

ON OCTOBER 15th

Every man and woman voter in Maine is in duty bound to express opinion on a proposed law which shall make it an offence against the law for any person employing a woman in any capacity in any sort of industry in Maine, for more than 48-hours in any one week.

The Present

Law permits women to work 54 hours a week. This law will reduce the hours of work SIX hours a week.

If You Pass this Law

It Will Put Maine at an

11 Percent Disadvantage

With Every Other Industrial State in the United States Making Cotton and Woolen Goods and Shoes, Except One.

IF THIS LAW affecting women is passed, every cotton mill and every shoe shop will be put on the 48-hour basis.

IT WILL tend to throw women out of work.

IT WILL damage the values of farm-property.

IT WILL increase the danger of Southern competition in cotton-mills.

IT WILL increase the present movement of shoe-industry toward the Middle West.

IT WILL prevent new industries from coming to Maine, to locate.

IT WILL cause Maine capital now in the cotton-manufacturing business to put their money in the South, instead of building new mills here.

IT WILL be a blow to Maine, which is already having a hard enough time to get along.

Be Sure to VOTE

And if you want to save Maine from a serious handicap at this time, when Southern Mills and shops are working as they please vote NO.

VOTE "NO" OCTOBER 15th

(Signed)

Enlarged Committee Associated Industries of Maine

L. M. Carroll, Norway, Maine, Chairman.

The BLIND MAN'S EYES

By William MacFarland
Edwin Palmer

ILLUSTRATIONS BY
R.H. Livingston

SYNOPSIS

CHAPTER I.—Gabriel Warden, Seattle capitalist, tells his butler he is expecting a caller, to be admitted without question. He informs his wife of danger that threatens him if he pursues a course he considers the only honorable one. Warden leaves the house in his car and meets a man whom he takes into the machine. When the car returns home, Warden is found dead, murdered, and alone. The caller, a young man, has been at Warden's house, but leaves unobserved.

CHAPTER II.—Bob Connery, conductor, receives orders to hold train for a party. Five men and a girl board the train. The father of the girl, Mr. Dorne, is the person for whom the train was held. Philip D. Eaton, a young man, also boarded the train. Dorne tells his daughter and his secretary, Don Avery, to find out what they can concerning him.

CHAPTER III.—The two make Eaton's acquaintance. The train is stopped by a landslide.

CHAPTER IV.—Eaton receives a telegram addressed to Lawrence Hillward, which he claims. It warns him he is being followed.

CHAPTER V.—Passing through the car, Connery notices Dorne's hand hanging outside the berth. He examines Dorne's hand, which has recently been injured. He tells his daughter, who is with him, that he has seen a man with a red hat and a red coat, who is being followed by a man in a black coat.

He looked up and down the aisle to assure himself that no one had entered the car during his examination; then he carefully drew the curtains together again and hurried to the forward end of the car, where he had left the porter.

"Lock the rear door of the car," he commanded. "Then come back here." He gave the negro the keys, and himself waited to prevent anyone from entering the car at his end. Looking through the glass of the door, he saw the young man Eaton standing in the vestibule of the car next ahead. Connery hesitated; then he opened the door and beckoned Eaton to him.

"Will you go forward, please," he requested, "and see if there isn't a doctor—"

"You mean the man with red hair in my car?" Eaton inquired.

"That's the one,"

Eaton started off without asking any questions. The porter, having locked the rear door of the car, returned and gave Connery back the keys. Connery still waited, until Eaton returned with the red-haired man. He let them in and locked the door behind them.

"You are a doctor?" Connery questioned the red-haired man.

"I am a surgeon,"

"That's what I wanted. Doctor—"

"My name is Sinclair. I am Douglas Sinclair of Chicago."

Connery nodded. "I have heard of you."

"He turned then to Eaton. 'Do you know where the gentleman is who belongs to Mr. Dorne's party?'—Avery."

"I believe his name is—"

"He is in the observation car," Eaton answered.

"Will you go and get him? The car door is locked. The porter will let you in and out. Something serious has happened here—do Mr. Dorne get Mr. Avery. If you can, without alarming Mr. Dorne's daughter—"

Eaton nodded understandingly and turned the porter who, taking the keys again from the conductor, let him out at the rear door of the car and unlocked the door behind him. Eaton went on into the observation car.

Without alarming Harriet Dorne, by as Avery called out of the car.

"Is it something wrong with Mr. Dorne?" Donald Avery demanded as Eaton drew back to let Avery precede him into the open part of the car.

"No, the conductor says."

Avery hurried forward toward the berth where Connery was standing back to the screen. Connery turned toward him.

"I want for you, sir, because you are the companion of the man who had this berth."

Avery pushed past him, and leaped forward as he looked past the surgeon. "What has happened to Mr. Dorne?"

"You see him as we found him, sir."

Connery started down nervously beside him.

Avery leaned inside the curtain and recoiled. "He's been murdered."

"It looks so, Mr. Avery. Yes; if he's dead, he's certainly been murdered," Connery agreed. "You can see that."

"Connery avoided mention of President Jarvis' name—'Tell anyone who asks you, Mr. Avery, that you saw him just as he was found.'"

He looked down again at the form in the berth, and Avery's gaze followed him; then, abruptly, it turned away. Avery stood clinging to the curtain, his eyes darting from one to another of the three men.

"Will you start your examination now, Doctor Sinclair?" Connery prompted.

The surgeon, before examining the man in the berth more closely, lifted his shades from the windows. Avery—

thing about the berth was in place, undisturbed; except for the mark of the savage blow on the side of the man's head, there was no evidence of anything unusual. It was self-evident that, whatever had been the motive of the attack, robbery was not one; whoever had struck had done no more than reach in and deliver his murderous blow; then he had gone on.

Sinclair made first an examination of the head; completing this, he jabbed the palmars upon the chest, loosened them at the waist and prepared to make his examination of the body.

"How long has he been dead?" Connery asked.

"He is not dead yet. Life is still present," Sinclair answered guardedly. "Whether he will live or ever regain consciousness is another question."

"One you can't answer?"

"The blow, as you can see," Sinclair touched the man's face with his left finger-tips—"fell mostly on the cheek bone temple. The cheekbone is fractured. He is in a complete state of coma; and there may be some fracture of the skull. Of course, there is some concussion of the brain."

Any inference to be drawn from this as to the seriousness of the injuries was plainly beyond Connery. "How long ago was he struck?" he asked.

"Some hours. Since midnight, certainly; and longer ago than five o'clock this morning."

"Could he have revived half an hour ago—say within the hour—enough to have pressed the button and rung the bell from his berth?"

Sinclair straightened and gazed at the conductor curiously. "No, certainly not," he replied. "That is completely impossible. Why did you ask?"

Connery avoided answer. But Avery pushed forward. "What is that? What's that?" he demanded.

"Will you go on with your examination, Doctor?" Connery urged.

"You said the bell from this berth rang recently?" Avery accused Connery.

"The pointer in the washroom, indicating a signal from this berth, was turned down a minute ago," Connery had to reply. "A few moments earlier all pointers had been set in the position indicating no call."

"That was before you found the body?"

"That was why I went to the berth—yes," Connery replied; "that was before I found the body."

"Then you mean you did not find the body," Avery charged. "Someone, passing through this car a minute or so before you, must have found him!"

Connery attended without replying. "And evidently that man dared not report it and could not wait longer to know whether Mr. Dorne was really dead, so he rang the bell!"

"Ought we keep Doctor Sinclair any longer from the examination, sir?" Connery now asked Avery's arm in appeal. "The first thing for us to know is whether Mr. Dorne is dying, isn't it?"

Connery checked himself; he had won his appeal. Eaton, standing quietly watchful, observed that Avery's eagerness to accuse now had been replaced by another interest with the conductor's words had recalled. Whether the man in the berth was to live or die—evidently that was no membership to affect Donald Avery one way or the other.

"Of course, by all means proceed with your examination, Doctor," Avery directed.

As Sinclair again bent over the body Avery leaned over also. Eaton gazed down, and Connery—a little taller than before and with his tightly set.

CHAPTER VI

"Isn't This Basil Santolne?"

The surgeon having finished looking at the palmars, pulled open and carefully removed the jacket part, revealing the upper part of the body of the man in the berth exposed. Conductor Connery turned to Avery.

"You have no objection to my taking a list of the articles in the berth?" Avery seemed to oppose; then, apparently, he recognized that this was an obvious part of the conductor's duty. "None at all," he replied.

Connery gathered up the clothing, the glasses, the watch and purse, and laid them on the seat across the aisle. Sitting down, then, opposite them, he began to catalogue these before Avery. He counted over the gold and banknotes in the purse and entered the amount upon his list.

"You know about what he had with him?" he asked.

"Very closely. That is correct. Nothing is missing," Avery answered. The conductor opened the watch.

"The crystal is missing."

Avery nodded. "Yes; it always—that is, it was missing yesterday."

Connery looked up at him; as though slightly puzzled by the manner of the reply; then, having finished his list, he rejoined the surgeon.

Sinclair was still bending over the naked torso. It had been a strong, healthy body; Sinclair guessed its age at fifty. As a boy, the man might have been an athlete—a college track runner or oarsman—and he had kept himself in condition through middle age. There was no mark or bruise upon the body, except that on the right side and just below the ribs there now showed a scar about an inch and a half long and of peculiar crescent shape. It was evidently a surgical scar and had completely healed.

Sinclair scrutinized this carefully and then looked up to Avery. "He was operated on recently?"

"About two years ago."

"For what?"

"It was some operation on the gall-bladder."

"Performed by Kuno Garret?" Avery hesitated. "I believe so." He watched Sinclair more closely as he continued his examination. Connery touched the surgeon on the arm.

"What must be done, Doctor? And where and when do you want to do it?"

Sinclair, however, it appeared, had not yet finished his examination. "Will you pull down the window curtains?" he directed.

As Connery, reaching across the body, complied, the surgeon took a



"He Was Operated On Recently?"

matchbox from his pocket, and glancing about at the three others as though to select from them the one most likely to be an efficient aid, he handed it to Eaton. "Will you help me, please? Strike a light and hold it as I direct—then draw it away slowly."

He lifted the partly closed eyelid from one of the eyes of the unconscious man and nodded to Eaton: "Hold the light in front of the pupil."

Eaton obeyed, drawing the light slowly away as Sinclair had directed, and the surgeon dropped the eyelid and exposed the other pupil.

"What's that for?" Avery now asked.

"I was trying to determine the seriousness of the injury to the brain. I was looking to see whether light could cause the pupil to contract. There was no reaction."

Avery started to speak, checked himself—and then he said: "There could be no reaction, I believe, Doctor Sinclair."

"What do you mean?"

"His optic nerve is destroyed."

"Ah! He was blind?"

"Yes, he was blind," Avery admitted.

"What did you say this was?" he demanded of Avery.

"I said his name was Nathan Dorne," Avery answered.

"No, no!" Sinclair jerked out impatiently. "Just this—'He is blind.' Just this Basil Santolne!"

Avery, if he still wished to do so, found it impossible to deny.

"Just Santolne?" Connery breathed.

To the conductor alone, among the four men standing by the berth, the name seemed to have come with the sharp shock of a surprise; with it had come an added sense of responsibility and horror over what had happened to the passenger who had been confined to his care, which made him whisper as he once more repeated the name to himself and stared down at the man in the berth.

Conductor Connery knew Basil Santolne only in the way that Santolne was known to great numbers of other people—that is, by name but not by sight.

possession of enough money for his own support, made it possible for him to live idly if he wished; but Santolne had not chosen to make his blindness an excuse for doing this. He had at once settled himself to his chosen profession, which was law. He had not found it easy to get a start in this, and he had succeeded only after great effort in getting a place with a small and unimportant firm. Within a short time, well within two years, men had begun to recognize that in this struggling law firm there was a powerful, clear, compelling mind. Santolne, a youth living in darkness, unable to see the men with whom he talked or the documents and books which must be read to him, was beginning to put the stamp of his personality on the firm's affairs. A year later his name appeared with others of the firm; at twenty-eight his was the leading name. He had begun to specialize long before that time, in corporation law; he married shortly after this. At thirty the firm name represented to those who knew its particulars only one personality, the personality of Santolne; and at thirty-five—though his indifference to money was proverbial—he was many times a millionaire. But except among the small and powerful group of men who had learned to consult him, Santolne himself at that time was utterly unknown.

Consulted continually by men concerned in great projects, immersed day and night in vast affairs, capable of living completely as he wished—he had been, at the age of forty-six, great but not famous, powerful but not publicly known. At that time an event had occurred which had forced the blind man out unwillingly from his obscurity.

This event had been the murder of the great western financier, Matthew Latron. There had been nothing in this affair which had in any way shadowed dishonor upon Santolne. So much as in his role of a blind without personality Santolne ever fought, he had fought against Latron; but his fight had been not against the man but against methods. There had come then a time of uncertainty and unrest; public consciousness was in the process of awakening to the knowledge that strange things, approaching close to the likeness of what even at crime, had been being done under the unassuming name of business. Scandal—financial scandal—breathed more strongly against Latron than perhaps against any of the other western men. He had been among their biggest; he had his enemies, of whom imperious Santolne might have been counted one, and he had his friends, both in high places; he was a world figure. Then, all of a sudden, the man had been struck down—killed, because of some private quarrel, men whispered, by an obscure and ill then unheard-of man.

The trembling wires and cables, which should have carried to the waiting world the expected news of Latron's conviction, carried instead the news of Latron's death; and disorder followed. The first public concern had been, of course, for the stocks and bonds of the great Latron properties; and Latron's business had seemed only further evidenced by the stanchness with which the Latron banks, the Latron railroads and mines and public utilities stood firm even against the shock of their builder's death. Assured of this, public interest had shifted to the trial, conviction and sentence of Latron's murderer; and it was during this trial that Santolne's name had become more publicly known. Not that the blind man was supposed of any knowledge—much the murder had been because of a purely private matter; but in the eager questioning into Latron's circumstances and surroundings previous to the crime, Santolne was summoned into court as a witness.

The blind man, led into the court, sitting sightless to the witness chair, revealing himself by his spoken, and even more by his attitude, replies as one of the unknown pillars of the destiny of the Continent as a competitor to the most powerful statesmen—had caught the public eye.

The fate of the murderer, the crime, even Latron himself, had been the state interest in the case; but the curiosity over the personality of Santolne.

It had been reported for some days that Santolne had come to Seattle directly after Warden's death; but when this was admitted, his associates had always been careful to add that Santolne, having been a close personal friend of Gabriel Warden, had come purely in a personal capacity, and the impression was given that Santolne had returned quietly some days before. The mere prolonging of his stay in the West was more than sufficient to attract attention among the Warden family; and such state as Warden had proclaimed, this attack upon Santolne, so similar to that which had slain Warden, and delivered within eleven days of Warden's death, must be of the gravest significance.

Connery stood stretched forward for the moment with this fuller recognition of the seriousness of the disaster which had come upon this man intrusted to his charge; then he turned to the witness.

"Can you do anything for him here, Doctor?" he asked.

The surgeon glanced down the car. "That statement is it occupied?"

"It's occupied by his daughter."

"Well, take him in there, then."

The four men lifted the body figure of Basil Santolne, carried it into the drawing-room and laid it on its back upon the bed.

said, "I'll get them; but before I decide to do anything, I ought to see his daughter. Since she is here, her consent is necessary before any operation on him."

"Miss Santolne is in the observation car," Avery said. "I'll get her."

The tone was in some way false—Eaton could not tell exactly how. Avery started down the aisle.

"One moment, please, Mr. Avery!" said the conductor. "I'll ask you not to tell Miss Santolne before any other passenger that there has been an attack upon her father. Wait until you get her inside the door of this car."

"You yourself said nothing, then, that can have made her suspect it?" Eaton asked.

Connery shook his head; the conductor, in doubt and anxiety over exactly what action the situation called for—unable, too, to communicate any hint of it to his superiors to the west because of the wires being down—clearly had resolved to keep the attack upon Santolne secret for some time. "I said nothing definite even to the trainmen," he replied; "and I want you gentlemen to promise me before you leave this car that you will say nothing until I give you leave."

His eyes shifted from the face of one to another, until he had assured himself that all agreed. As Avery left the car, Eaton found a seat in one of the end sections near the drawing room. He did not know whether to ask to leave the car, or whether he ought to remain; and he would have gone except for recollection of Harriet Santolne. Then the curtain at the end of the car was pushed further aside, and she came in.

She was very pale, but quite controlled, as Eaton knew she would be.

"Can You Do Anything for Him Here, Doctor?" He Asked.

She looked at Eaton, but did not speak as she passed; she went directly to the door of the drawing room, opened it and went in, followed by Avery. The door closed, and for a moment Eaton could hear voices inside the room—Harriet Santolne's, Sinclair's, Connery's. The conductor then came to the door of the drawing room and sent the porter for water and clean linen; Eaton heard the rip of linen being torn, and the car became filled with the smell of antiseptics.

Donald Avery came out of the drawing room and dropped into the seat across from Eaton. He seemed deeply thoughtful—so deeply, indeed, as to be almost unaware of Eaton's presence. And Eaton, observing him, again had the sense that Avery's absorption was completely in connection to himself of what was going on behind the door—in how Basil Santolne's death or continued existence would affect the fortunes of Donald Avery.

A long time passed—how long, Eaton could not have told; he noted only that during it the shadows on the window outside the window appeared to change their position. Finally the door opened, and Harriet Santolne came out, pale as before and now not quite so steady.

Eaton rose as she approached them; but Avery held up all caution and spoke to her for a moment. She sat down in the seat where Avery had been sitting.

"Doctor Sinclair says we will know in four or five days," she replied to Avery; she turned then directly to Eaton. "He thought there probably was a clot under the skull, and he operated to find it and relieve it. There was one, and we have done all we can; now we may only wait. Doctor Sinclair has appointed himself nurse; he says I can help him, but not just yet. I thought you would like to know."

"Thank you; I did want to know," Eaton acknowledged. He moved away from them, and sat down in one of the seats further down the car.

Soon he left for his own car, and as the door was closing behind him, a woman came to his car from the car he had just left—a young girl suddenly crying in abandon. Harriet Santolne, he understood, must have broken down for the moment, after the strain of the operation; and he felt as though to turn back, feeling the blood drive suddenly, down his heart. Then, reflecting that he had no right to go to her, he went on.

CHAPTER VII

Suspicion Fastens on Eaton.

Eaton found his car better filled than it had been before, for the people shifted from the car behind had been scattered through the train. Keeping himself to his section, he watched the car and outside the windows for signs of what investigation Connery and Avery were making. Whoever had attacked Santolne must still be upon the train, for no one could have escaped through the snow. No one could now escape. Avery and Connery and whoever else was making investigation with them evidently were not letting anyone know that an investigation was being made. Eaton went to lunch; on his way back, from the diner, he saw the conductors with papers in their hands questioning a passenger. They evidently were starting systematically through the cars, examining each person; they were making the plea of necessity of a report to the railroad offices of names and addresses of all held up by the stoppage of the train.

Eaton started on toward the rear of the train.

"A moment, sir!" Connery called. Eaton halted. The conductor confronted him.

"Your name, sir?" Connery asked.

"Philip D. Eaton."

Connery wrote down the answer. "Your address?"

"I have no address. I was going to a hotel in Chicago—which one I hadn't decided yet."

"Where are you coming from?"

"From Asia."

"That's hardly an address, Mr. Eaton."

"I can give you no address abroad. I had no fixed address there. I was traveling most of the time. I arrived

in Seattle by the Asiatic steamer and took this train."

"Ah! You came on the Tambo Maru."

Connery made note of this, as he had made note of all the other questions and answers. Then he said something to the Pullman conductor, who replied in the same low tones what they said was not audible to Eaton.

"You can tell us at least where your family is, Mr. Eaton," Connery suggested.

"I have no family."

"Friends, then?"

"I—I have no friends."

"Nowhere?"

"Nowhere."

Connery pondered for several moments. "The Mr. Hillward—Lawrence Hillward, to whom the telegram was addressed which you claimed this morning, your associate who was to have taken this train with you—will you give me his address?"

"I don't know Hillward's address."

"Give me the address, then, of the man who sent the telegram."

"I am unable to do that, either."

Connery spoke again to the Pullman conductor, and they conversed privately for a minute. "That is all, then," Connery said finally.

He signed his name to the sheet on which he had written Eaton's name, and handed it to the Pullman conductor, who also signed it and returned it to him; then they went on to the passenger now occupying Section Four, without making any further comment.

Eaton told himself that there should be no danger to himself from this inquiry, directed against no one but including consequently everyone on the train. When the conductors had left the car, he put his magazine away and went into the men's compartment to smoke and calm his nerves. His return to America had passed the bounds of recklessness; and what a situation he would now be in if his actions brought even serious suspicions against him! He decided his first cigar and was debating whether to light another, when he heard voices outside the car, and opening the window and looking out, he saw Connery and the brakeman struggling through the snow and making, apparently, some search. Presently Connery passed the door of the compartment carrying something loosely wrapped in a newspaper in his hands. Eaton finished his cigar and went back to his seat in the rear. As he glanced at the seat where he had left his locked traveling bag, he saw that the bag was no longer there. It stood now between the two seats on the floor, and looking at it he found himself staring at it with a look which told Philip that it was forced.

To be continued.

